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--75. (Amended) The method according to claim 74, wherein the user identification data include a user name.--

REMARKS

Claims 1-75 remain in the application and have been amended hereby.

As will be noted from the Declaration, Applicants are citizens and residents of Japan and this application originated there.

Accordingly, the amendments to the specification are made to place the application in idiomatic English, and the claims are amended to place them in better condition for examination.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADEIN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The Abstract of the Disclosure has been amended as follows:

--A method of recording [and/or] data to and reproducing data [to and/or] from a recording medium [is provided]. [A] Recording medium user identification data read from a recording medium [having] upon which are recorded [therein] main data to be recorded [and/or] and reproduced and the user identification data is compared with [a one] recorder and player user identification data read from a data [recorder/player] recorder and player for recording [or] and reproducing the main data[,] and the main data are recorded to [or] and reproduced from the recording medium when the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is] are coincident with [that read from] the recorder and player user identification data [recorder/player].--

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-75 have been amended as follows:

--1. (Amended) A method of recording [and/or] and reproducing data to a recording medium, comprising the steps of:  
comparing [a] recording medium user identification data

read from [a] the recording medium [having] upon which are recorded [therein] the user identification data along with main data[,] with [a one] recorder and player user identification data read from a data [recorder/player] recorder and player, for [recording or] recordation and reproduction of the main data to [or] and from the recording medium; and

recording [or] the main data to and reproducing the main data [to or] from the recording medium when the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is] are coincident with [a one read from] the recorder and player user identification data [recorder/player].

--2. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein: [the recording medium has] further recorded [therein a] on the recording medium are management data to manage [recording] recordation to [or] and reproduction from the recording medium; and

the main data are recorded to [or] and reproduced from the recording medium based on the management data read from the recording medium when the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is] are not coincident with [that read from] the recorder and player user identification data [recorder/player].

--3. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, [where] wherein when the recording medium user identification data

[read from the recording medium is] are coincident with [that read from] the recorder and player user identification data [recorder/player,] the main data to be recorded [to] in the recording medium are encrypted with the recorder and player user identification data [read from the data recorder/player] being taken as an encryption key and [then] recorded to the recording medium.

--4. (Amended) The method according to claim 3, wherein the recorder and player user identification data [read from the data recorder/player is] are buried in the main data to be recorded to the recording medium.

--5. (Amended) The method according to claim 3, wherein the recorder and player user identification data [read from the data recorder/player is] are encrypted and buried in the main data to be recorded to the recording medium.

--6. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein: [the recording medium has] further recorded [therein a] in the recording medium are management data to manage [recording] recordation to [or] and reproduction from the recording medium; and

the main data are reproduced from the recording medium based the management data read from the recording medium when the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is] are not coincident with [that read from]

the recorder and player user identification data  
[recorder/player].

--7. (Amended) The method according to claim 6, further comprising [a] the step of permitting the data reproduction from the recording medium when the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is] are not coincident with [that read from] the recorder and player user identification data [recorder/player] and [also when] the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is a] are specific identification data.

--8. (Amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein the specific identification data [indicates] indicate that the recording medium is an original one.

--9. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the recorder and player user identification data [read from the data recorder/player is] are set by [the] a user.

--10. (Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein the recorder and player user identification data [is a data including] include a user name.

--11. (Amended) A method of recording data to a recording medium, comprising the steps of:  
comparing [a] recording medium user identification data

read from [a] the recording medium [having] upon which are recorded the recording medium user identification data along with main data[,] with [a one] recorder and player user identification data read from a data [recorder/player,] recorder and player for recording the main data to the recording medium; and

recording the main data to the recording medium when the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is] are coincident with [a one read from] the recorder and player user identification data [recorder/player].

--12. (Amended) The method according to claim 11,  
wherein:

[the recording medium has] further recorded [therein a] on the recording medium management data to manage recording to the recording medium; and

the main data are recorded to the recording medium based on the management data read from the recording medium when the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is] are not coincident with [that read from] the recorder and player user identification data [recorder/player].

--13. (Amended) The method according to claim 11, [where]  
wherein when the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is] are coincident with [that

read from] the recorder and player user identification data [recorder/player,] the main data to be recorded to the recording medium are encrypted with the recorder and player user identification data [read from the data recorder/player being taken] as an encryption key and then recorded to the recording medium.

--14. (Amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein the recorder and player user identification data [read from the data recorder/player is] are buried in the main data to be recorded to the recording medium.

--15. (Amended) The method according to claim 14, wherein the recorder and player user identification data [read from the data recorder/player is] are encrypted and buried in the main data to be recorded to the recording medium.

--16. (Amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein the recorder and player user identification data [read from the data recorder/player is] are set by [the] a user.

--17. (Amended) The method according to claim 16, wherein the recorder and player user identification data [includes] include a user name.

--18. (Amended) A recording-medium recorder, comprising:  
a head to scan a recording medium [having] upon which are

stored [therein a] recording medium user identification data along with main data;

a memory [having a] in which are recorded memory user identification data [recorded therein]; and

a controller to compare the recording medium user identification data [read by the head from the recording medium] with [that read from] the memory user identification data and to control operations for playback of the recording medium based on [the basis of the] a result of comparison.

--19. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 18, wherein when the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is] are coincident with [that read from] the memory[,] user identification data the controller controls the head to record the main data to the recording medium.

--20. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the memory is provided in a user identification data server connected to [the] a data [recorder/player] recorder and player.

--21. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the controller makes mutual authentication with the user identification data server when it is judged that the [latter] user identification data server is connected to the data [recorder/player] recorder and player.

--22. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein when the authentication [has successfully be made made,] is successful the controller instructs the user identification data server to read the memory user identification data [from the memory].

--23. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the memory user identification data [read from the memory is] are encrypted and sent from the user identification data server to the controller.

--24. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein when the authentication [has not successfully be made,] is not successful the controller ceases [the operations of] recording to the recording medium.

--25. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein when it is judged that the user identification data server is not connected to the data [recorder/player] recorder and player, the controller prompts [the] a user to connect the user identification data server to the data [recorder/player] recorder and player.

--26. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein:

[the recording medium has] further recorded [therein a] on the recording medium are management data to manage

recording to the recording medium; and

the controller records the main data to the recording medium based on the management data read from the recording medium when the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is] are not coincident with [that read from] the memory user identification data.

--27. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 26, [where] wherein when the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is] are coincident with [that read from] the memory[,] user identification data the main data to be recorded to the recording medium are encrypted with recorder and player the user identification data [read from the data recorder/player] being taken as an encryption key and then recorded by the head to the recording medium.

--28. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 27, wherein the memory user identification data [read from the memory is] are buried in the main data to be recorded to the recording medium.

--29. (Amended) The method according to claim 28, wherein the controller encrypts the memory user identification data [read from the memory] and buries it in the main data to be recorded to the recording medium.

--30. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 18,

wherein [a] user identification data set by [the] a user [is] are written to the memory.

--31. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 18, wherein [the] user identification data to be stored into the memory is set by [the] a user.

--32. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the user identification data [includes] include a user name.

--33. (Amended) A recording-medium playback method, comprising the steps of:

comparing [a] recording medium user identification data read from a recording medium [having] upon which are recorded [therein] the recording medium user identification data along with main data[,] with [a one] recorder and player user identification data read from a data [recorder/player,] recorder and player for reproducing the main data from the recording medium; and

reproducing the main data from the recording medium when the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is] are coincident with [a one read from] the data [recorder/player] recorder and player user identification.

--34. (Amended) The method according to claim 33,

wherein:

[the recording medium has] further recorded [therein a]  
on the recording medium are management data to manage [the]  
operations of data reproduction from the recording medium; and

the main data are reproduced from the recording medium  
based on the management data read from the recording medium  
when the recording medium user identification data [read from  
the recording medium is] are not coincident with [that read  
from] the recorder and player user identification data  
[recorder/player].

--35. (Amended) The method according to claim 34, wherein  
when the recording medium user identification data [read from  
the recording medium is] are not coincident with [that read  
from] the recorder and player user identification data  
[recorder/player] and [also] when the recording medium user  
identification data [read from the recording medium is a] are  
specific identification data[,] playback of the recording  
medium is allowed.

--36. (Amended) The method according to claim 35, wherein  
the specific identification data [indicates] indicate that the  
recording medium is an original one.

--37. (Amended) The method according to claim 33,  
wherein:

[the recording medium has] encrypted data are recorded

[therein] on the recording medium; and

the main data read from the recording medium are decrypted using[, as an encryption key,] the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium] as an encryption key when the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is] are coincident with [that read from] the recorder and player user identification data [recorder/player].

--38. (Amended) The method according to claim 33, wherein the recorder and player user identification data [read from the data recorder/player is] are set by [the] a user.

--39. (Amended) The method according to claim 38, wherein the user identification data [includes] include a user name.

--40. (Amended) A recording-medium player, comprising:  
a head to scan a recording medium [having] upon which are recorded [therein] encrypted data as well as at least [a] recording medium user identification data and reproduction management data;

a memory [having a] in which are stored memory user identification data [stored therein]; and

a controller to compare the recording medium user identification data [read by the head from the recording medium,] with [that read from] the memory user identification data and to control operations for playback of the recording

medium based on [the basis of the] a result of comparison.

--41. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 40, wherein when the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is] are coincident with [that read from] the memory[,] user identification data the controller allows [to reproduce] the reproduction of the main data from the recording medium.

--42. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 41, wherein when the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is] are coincident with [that read from] the memory[,] user identification data the controller decrypts the main data read by the head from the recording medium using the recording medium user identification data.

--43. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein when the recording medium user identification data [read by the head from the recording medium] cannot be detected[,] the controller controls the operations for playback of the recording medium based on the reproduction management data read from the recording medium.

--44. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the memory is provided in a user identification data server connected to the data [recorder/player] recorder and

player.

--45. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the controller [makes] performs mutual authentication with the user identification data server when it is judged that the [latter] user identification data server is connected to the data [recorder/player] recorder and player.

--46. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 45, wherein when the authentication [has successfully be made,] is successful the controller instructs the memory user identification data server to read the user identification data from the memory.

--47. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 46, wherein the memory user identification data [read from the memory is] are encrypted and sent from the user identification data server.

--48. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 45, wherein when the authentication [has not successfully be made,] is not successful the controller ceases the operations for [data reproduction] playback from the recording medium.

--49. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim [40] 45, wherein when it is judged that the user identification data server is not connected to the data [recorder/player,]

recorder and player the controller prompts [the] a user to connect the user identification data server to the data [recorder/player] recorder and player.

--50. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 41, wherein when the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is] are not coincident with [that read from] the user identification data memory and [also when] the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is] are a specific identification data[,] the controller allows [to reproduce] the reproduction of data from the recording medium.

--51. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 50, wherein the specific identification data [indicates] indicate the recording medium is an original one.

--52. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 50, wherein the user identification data set by the user [is] are written to the memory.

--53. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the recording medium user identification data [read from the recording medium is] are set by [the] a user.

--54. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 53, wherein the user identification data [includes] include a user

name.

--55. (Amended) A method of controlling data copying, comprising the steps of:

comparing [a] main data user identification data read from main data [having] within which at least the main data user identification data are buried [therein,] with [a one] recorder and player user identification data read from a data [recorder/player,] recorder and player for copying the main data; and

controlling data output when the main data user identification data [extracted from the data is] are coincident with [that read from] the recorder and player user identification data [recorder/player].

--56. (Amended) The method according to claim 55, wherein:

the main data further includes [a] management data to manage [the] operations of copying the data; and

the data copying is controlled based on the management data when the main data user identification data [extracted from the main data is] are not coincident with [that read from] the recorder and player user identification data [recorder/player].

--57. (Amended) The method according to claim 56, wherein when the main data user identification data [extracted from

the main data is] are coincident with [that read from] the recorder and player user identification data [recorder/player,] the main data user identification data [extracted from the main data is] are encrypted using the main data user identification data as an encryption key before being outputted.

--58. (Amended) The method according to claim 57, wherein the recorder and player user identification data [read from the data recorder/player is] are buried in the main data.

--59. (Amended) The method according to claim 57, wherein the recorder and player user identification data [read from the data recorder/player is] are encrypted and buried into the main data.

--60. (Amended) The method according to claim 56, wherein when the management data indicates that billing [has to be done] is required for copying the main data[,] it is judged whether the billing is possible[,] and the copying is [done] performed when [the] a result of judgment [is] indicates that the billing is possible.

--61. (Amended) The method according to claim 60, wherein the billing is such that a number of times that main data can be copied is decremented.

--62. (Amended) The method according to claim 61, wherein when it is judged that the billing is not possible and [also when] the number of times main data can be copied is not incremented, the copying operation is ceased.

--63. (Amended) The method according to claim 55, wherein the recorder and player user identification data [read from the data recorder/player is] are set by [the] a user.

--64. (Amended) The method according to claim 63, wherein the user identification data [includes] include a user name.

--65. (Amended) A data reproducing method, comprising the steps of:

comparing [a] main data user identification data extracted from main data [having] within which at least the main data user identification data are buried [therein,] with [a one] read from a data [recorder/player,] recorder and player for reproduction of the main data; and

reproducing the main data when the main data user identification data [extracted from the main data is] are coincident with [that read from] the recorder and player user identification data [recorder/player].

--66. (Amended) The method according to claim 65, wherein:

the main data further includes a management data to

manage [the] an operation of reproducing the main data; and the main data are reproduced based on the management data when the main data user identification data [extracted from the main data is] are not coincident with [that read from] the recorder and player user identification data [recorder/player].

--67. (Amended) The method according to claim 66, wherein when the main data user identification data cannot be detected from the main data[,] the operation of reproducing the main data is controlled based on the management data.

--68. (Amended) The method according to claim 66, wherein when the main data user identification data [extracted from the main data is] are not coincident with [that read from] the recorder and player user identification data [recorder/player] and [also when] the main data user identification data [extracted from the main data is a] are specific identification data[, it is allowed to reproduce] the reproduction of the main data is allowed.

--69. (Amended) The method according to claim 68, wherein the specific identification data [indicates] indicate that the recording medium is an original one.

--70. (Amended) The method according to claim 66, wherein when the management data [indicates] indicate that billing

[has to be done] is required for reproduction of the main data[,] it is judged whether the billing is possible[,] and [the] a main data are reproduced when the result of judgment [is] indicates that the billing is possible.

--71. (Amended) The method according to claim 70, wherein the billing is [made] performed by decrementing a number of times the reproduction can be [done] performed.

--72. (Amended) The method according to claim 71, wherein when it is judged that the billing is not possible and [also when] the number of times of reproduction is not incremented[,] the operation of reproduction is inhibited.

--73. (Amended) The method according to claim 65, wherein:

the main data [includes] include encrypted data; and the main data user identification data [extracted from the main data is] are decrypted using the main data user identification data when the main data user identification data [extracted from the main data is] are coincident with [that read from] the recorder and player user identification data [recorder/player].

--74. (Amended) The method according to claim 65, wherein the recorder and player user identification data [read from the data recorder/player is] are set by [the] a user.

--75. (Amended) The method according to claim 74, wherein  
the user identification data [includes] include a user name.--